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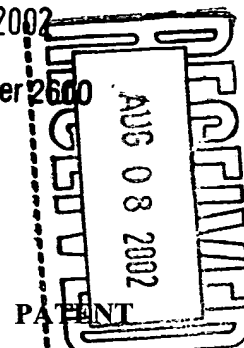
CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on August 1, 2002.

Technology Center 2600

Signature: _____

Robert A. Baumark



Attorney Docket No. NTI-004

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application)

PATENT APPLICATION

Inventor(s): Linard Karklin et al.)

Art Unit: 2621

Application No.: 09/814,025)

Examiner: unknown

Filed: 03/20/2001)

Title "System And Method Of Providing Mask Quality Control")

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Listed below or on an attached Form PTO-1449 is information known to applicant(s). A copy of each listed publication and U.S. and foreign patent, except for pending U.S. applications, is being submitted herewith, along with a concise explanation of information in a foreign language, if any, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97-1.98.

Applicants respectfully request that the listed information be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the above-identified application. If form PTO-1449 is enclosed, the Examiner is requested to initial and return it in accordance with MPEP § 609.


This statement is not intended to represent that a search has been made or that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56.

- ☒ This statement qualifies under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97, subsection (b) because (check all that apply):
- ☐ (1) It is being filed within 3 months of the application filing date and is other than a continued prosecution application under § 1.53(d)
-- OR --
 - ☐ (2) It is being filed within 3 months of entry of a national stage
-- OR --
 - ☒ (3) It is being filed before the mail date of the first Office Action on the merits.
-- OR --
 - ☐ (4) It is being filed before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under § 1.114
- ☐ 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c). If this statement is being filed after the period specified in § 1.97(b), but before the mailing date of the earlier of a final office action under § 1.113, a notice of allowance under § 1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, then:
- ☐ a certification as specified in § 1.97(e) is provided below; **or**
 - ☐ a fee of \$180.00 as set forth in § 1.17(p) is authorized below, enclosed, or included with the payment of other papers filed together with this statement.
- ☐ 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d). If this statement is being filed after the period specified in § 1.97(c), but on or before payment of the issue fee, then:
- A. a certification as specified in § 1.97(e) is completed below; **and**
 - B. a fee of \$180.00 as set forth in § 1.17(p) is authorized below, enclosed, or included with the payment of other papers filed together with this statement.
- ☒ **Fee Authorization.** The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 50-0574 (Docket No. NTI-004).

Respectfully submitted,

BEVER, HOFFMAN & HARMS, LLP

Dated: 8-1-02

By: 
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